



Exciting Changes on the Horizon

This is our first electronic newsletter of 2016, which means we've changed things up a bit as we do every year. You'll notice a couple of new features below, including the "Past Project Showcase" and the "Commercial Building Trends" sections.

But this year marks even bigger changes to come, as we're hard at work revamping our Website. Once launched, the new site will include a regularly updated blog and will feature our increased social media presence, while also giving us greater visibility within both the Delmarva and the commercial building communities.

Be on the lookout for these changes in the next couple of months. We'll also highlight them here in "Building with Whayland" when the time is right.

We hope you will like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and on our blog and continue supporting us as we support the community.

Until next time...

Steve Hentschel
President

National Construction News

FY17 Budget Cuts Construction Programs

President Obama's final budget proposal is filled with minus signs for many major federal construction programs in fiscal year 2017, including General Services Administration new buildings, Army Corps of Engineers civil works and Environmental Protection Agency water infrastructure.

But the \$4.1 trillion budget request, sent to Congress on Feb. 9, includes some offsetting hikes, too, including highway and transit programs. They would be in line for increases that track the 2017 numbers in the recently enacted FAST Act, which authorizes \$305 billion over five years for highways, transit and passenger rail.

Overall, the Associated General Contractors of America calculates, the Obama FY17 budget includes a total of \$141 billion for construction programs, up about 14 percent from the \$123.9 billion in enacted fiscal 2016 construction appropriations.

But all of that year-to-year increase would be accounted for by programs under an Obama-proposed 21st Century Clean Transportation Plan. The plan would total \$17.9 billion in 2017, including about \$8 billion for the Federal Transit Administration, according to U.S. Dept. of Transportation figures.

The administration would fund the clean transportation plan through a new \$10 per barrel tax on oil. But leading congressional Republicans have bluntly rejected the idea. For example, House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) called the proposal "little more than an election-year distraction" that was "dead on arrival."

If the clean transportation plan isn't adopted, the budget's 2017 construction total would be about flat with 2016. Moreover, notes Sean O'Neill, AGC congressional relations director for infrastructure advancement, "The major accounts that we do follow did see a decrease almost across the board."

Read the full ENR report [HERE](#), or by clicking on the blue tab above.

Whayland.Com

Commercial Building Trends

In the next few days, we will begin developing a new and improved Whayland.com Website. This will help

For 2016, we'll be taking a look at trends in the commercial building industry here in this section of our e-newsletter.

us to better define our brand and promote our services to the general public.

We have some exciting features in mind, like a cleaner and fresher look, an informative media section, an expansive blog and a simplified way of reaching us at Whayland, among others.

We hope to have the new site ready for launch within the next couple of months and will post an update here in our next e-newsletter.

This week, we start with so-called "green building," which we at Whayland have been involved with for years.

Click [HERE](#) for information on our green building program.

Industry experts expect the trend in green building will continue throughout 2016. Currently In the residential sector, green building accounts for 26 to 33 percent of the total residential market and has helped contribute to the industry's recovery after the recession, according to Dodge Data & Analytics.

And the trend also continues to grow in commercial building, driven by a desire to produce environmentally friendly structures as well as by consumer and client demand.

Click [HERE](#) to learn how Whayland can help you with your green energy needs.



Past Project Showcase



Southern Delaware News

In the spirit of the wildly popular "Throwback Thursday" on social media, we're beginning a new section in our newsletter for 2016 entitled "Past Project Showcase."

In each edition, we'll look at a project Whayland has undertaken in the past and give you some interesting facts in regards to the structure.

This week, we take a look at the Johnny Janosik World of Furniture building in Laurel, just a short distance from our offices.

Having compiled data for the 2015 calendar year, the Sussex County Association of Realtors (SCAOR) reported that commercial real estate in the county, which has enjoyed a robust recovery in the last few years, showed big gains again in 2015.

Nearly \$34 million in commercial sales were conducted in the county in 2015,

Enjoy!

- The structure is 180,000-square-foot, making it the largest furniture store in Delaware
- It opened in October of 2006
- Approximately 14,000 pieces of furniture are showcased in the building
- The home theater area features a tin ceiling that's meant to add a sort of art deco flair to the section
- The facility features vending machines with hot and cold refreshments in its "food court"
- There's a special area for kids to play, while adults shop

Join us next week as we turn back the clock and again take a look at one of the building projects that led to Whayland's success in years past.

which accounted for 64 commercial properties changing hands.

The data released by SCAOR is compiled from the Association's Multiple Listing Service (MLS), which tracks all data regarding real estate transactions in Sussex County.

Contact Whayland

Contact the Whayland Co., using any of the following methods:

**Address: 30613 Sussex Highway,
Laurel, DE 19956**

Phone: 302-875-5445

Internet: www.whayland.com

Email: steve@whayland.com